

LEGISLATURE—TERMS AND PAY OF MEMBERS—
PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

S. J. R. No. 19.]

Proposing an amendment to Section 5 of Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Texas fixing the terms for convening the Legislature of the State of Texas, providing that the first thirty days thereof shall be devoted to the introduction of bills and resolutions, acting upon emergency appropriations, passing upon confirmation of recess appointees of the Governor and such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor in special messages to the Legislature; providing that during the succeeding thirty days of the Regular Session, committees of each House shall hold hearings to consider bills and resolution and other matters then pending and providing that during the following sixty days of the Regular Session, the Legislature shall act upon such bills and resolutions as may be then pending and upon such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor in special messages to the Legislature; providing that each house may otherwise determine its order of business by an affirmative vote of four-fifths of its membership, and amending Section 24 of Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Texas, increasing the per diem of members of the Legislature to \$10.00 per day for the first 120 days of each session and thereafter not exceeding \$5.00 per day; and providing for the mileage in going to and returning from the seat of government, to not exceed \$2.50 for every twenty-five miles, the distance to be computed by the nearest and most direct route of travel from a table of distance prepared by the Comptroller and providing that no member shall be entitled to mileage for any extra session called within one day after the adjournment of a regular or called session; providing for an election upon such proposed constitutional amendment and making an appropriation therefor.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. That Section 5 of Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

The Legislature shall meet every two years at such time as may be provided by law and at other times when convened by the Governor. When convened in regular Session, the first thirty days thereof shall be devoted to the introduction of bills and resolutions, acting upon emergency appropriations, passing upon the confirmation of the recess appointees of the Governor and such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor in special messages to the Legislature; provided that during the succeeding thirty days of the regular session of the Legislature the various committees of each House shall hold hearings to consider all bills and resolutions and other matters then pending; and such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor; provided further that during the following sixty days the Legislature shall act upon such bills and resolutions as may be then pending and upon such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor in special messages to the Legislature; provided however, either House may otherwise determine its order of business by an affirmative vote of four-fifths of its membership.

SEC. 2. That Section 24 of Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

Members of the Legislature shall receive from the public Treasury a per diem of not exceeding \$10.00 per day for the first 120 days of each session and after that not exceeding \$5.00 per day for the remainder of the session.

In addition to the per diem the members of each House shall be entitled to mileage in going to and returning from the seat of government, which mileage shall not exceed \$2.50 for every 25 miles, the distance to be computed by the nearest and most direct route of travel, from a table of distance prepared by the Comptroller to each county seat now or hereafter to be established; no member to be entitled to mileage for any extra session that may be called within one day after the adjournment of a regular or called session.

SEC. 3. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the electors of this state qualified to vote on constitutional amendments at an election to be held throughout the state on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November A. D. 1930, at which election each ballot shall be printed thereon the words: "For the amendment of Section 5 of Article 3 of the Constitution of Texas fixing the terms for convening the Legislature of the State of Texas." "AGAINST the amendment of Section 5 of Article 3 of the Constitution of Texas fixing the terms of convening the Legislature of the State of Texas;" and there shall also be printed thereon the words: "FOR the amendment of Section 24 of Article 3 of the Constitution of Texas providing for an increase in the maximum per diem of members of the Legislature to \$10.00 per day for the first 120 days and thereafter not exceeding \$5.00 per day and decreasing the mileage traveled by each member in going to and returning from the Legislature from \$5.00 for each 25 miles to \$2.50 for each 25 miles." "AGAINST the amendment of Section 24 of Article 3 of the Constitution of Texas providing for an increase in the maximum per diem of members of the Legislature to \$10.00 per day for the first 120 days and thereafter not exceeding \$5.00 per day and decreasing the mileage traveled by each member in going to and returning from the Legislature from \$5.00 for each 25 miles to \$2.50 for each 25 miles." Each voter shall scratch out with pen or pencil the clause or clauses which he desires to vote against so as to indicate whether he is voting for or against said proposed amendments.

SEC. 4. The Governor of the State is hereby directed to issue the necessary proclamation for said election and have the same published as required by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas and said election shall be held under the laws and Constitution of this State.

SEC. 5. The sum of five thousand dollars, or so much thereof

as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of the State Treasury to pay the expense of said publication and election.

[NOTE: S. J. R. No. 19 passed the Senate 23 ayes, 0 nays; passed the House 102 ayes, 9 nays.]

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1929.

PROVIDING FOR LAND OFFICE INVESTIGATION.

S. C. R. No. 4.]

Providing for the investigation of the General Land Office of the State of Texas, and the administration thereof by a joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Texas, appointed therefor and defining the powers and duties of said committee, and making appropriation from the mileage and per diem and contingent fund for the payment of the expenses of said committee.

WHEREAS, large tracts of land in the western part of this State are owned by the Permanent University fund, the same having been set aside for the benefit of the University with a view that such land should yield the greatest possible amount for the support and maintenance of the University; and

WHEREAS, the State owns other large tracts of land; and

WHEREAS, oil has been discovered recently on and adjacent to such lands, making the same very valuable; and

WHEREAS, the present statutes providing for the sale of such lands are wholly inadequate to secure to the State and to the University a fair return under present circumstances and conditions and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the General Land Office advertised for sale certain of said University lands and set the date of sale just a few days before the convening of the Forty-first Legislature and after the same was brought to his attention he failed to postpone the sale in order that the Legislature might determine the policy of the State in the sale of said lands in the light of present conditions, although the Attorney General recently ruled that the Land Commissioner had the discretion of postponing the date of said sale until a later date in the month of January; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that the Legislature have all the facts in connection with transactions that have occurred in reference to said land sales; and

WHEREAS, in the light of all that has transpired it is necessary in the interest of the public welfare that an investigation be made into all matters pertaining to the public lands of this State; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING:

SECTION 1: That a committee of five members of the House